

Any developmental plan for any group must concern itself with economy and education. As far as the economy of Jarawa is concerned, it is a self-sufficient economy, though at the subsistence level. The carrying capacity, and flora and fauna in the Jarawa Reserve are sufficient enough to sustain the whole tribe. However, two developments that have taken place during the last two decades are alarming. First, that the Jarawas have been interacting with the outsiders, and thereby learning and having the taste of alien's food habits; and secondly, as the fear of the hostility of the Jarawas had died out, the outsiders

Plan/Strategies for the Development of Jarawa:

In any case, my suggestion on this issue is twofold; either to close the ATR for all purposes and for all times to come, or to construct a parallel ATR passing out of the range of Jarawa Reserve. And thereafter, formulate strategies for planned development of the Jarawa.

Moreover, the Jarawa issue has today become an international issue. A number of organizations interested in the protection of indigenous populations are ready to help the cause of the Jarawas. Even the World Bank could be persuaded to take interest in the Jarawa affairs. Thus, in addition to funds made available by the Government of India, the funds for the construction of such a parallel ATR, outside the Jarawa Reserve in South and Middle Andaman could be constructed. It would, perhaps, serve as check and balance between the Jarawa and the outside world. In the meantime, government should formulate the positive strategies of interaction between the two.

The third option is that of constructing a parallel route outside the Jarawa Reserve. In the first glance, the third option appears to be absurd and ridiculous; however, it is again not like that. Recently after tsunami a 52 km road is being constructed in Campbell Bay in Great Nicobar. It is being constructed because the road was damaged in tsunami. When we can construct 52 km parallel road in Campbell Bay at the cost of national exchequer, can't we construct similar parallel ATR in south and middle Andaman outside the Jarawa Reserves? We certainly can do so.